

WE CLAIM:

1. An adapter for connecting a printer to a cellular radio system, wherein the adapter enables the printer to conduct facsimile operations, comprising:

a facsimile module, wherein the facsimile module includes executable  
5 instructions for decoding fax data and processing the fax data to generate print data for printing;

a cell radio;

one or more communication ports, wherein at least one of the communication ports is in communication with the printer; and

10 a data encoder in communication with the facsimile module and the cell radio, wherein the data encoder is configured to convert data transmitted between the facsimile module and the cell radio.

2. The adapter of claim 1, further comprising a peripheral controller,  
15 wherein the peripheral controller includes executable instructions to control the printer.

3. The adapter of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communication ports is a universal serial bus.

5           4.     The adapter of claim 1, further comprising a network controller,  
wherein the network controller comprises executable instructions to establish a  
network connection through at least one of the communication ports.

          5.     The adapter of claim 4, further comprising a fax over IP module,  
10 wherein the fax over IP module comprises executable instructions for processing fax  
data through the network connection.

          6.     The adapter of claim 4, wherein the network connection comprises a  
wireless network connection.

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          7.     The adapter of claim 1, wherein at least one of the communication  
ports comprise an RJ-11 connection.

          8.     The adapter of claim 1, further comprising a user interface, wherein the  
20 user interface is configured to receive instructions from a user.

          9.     The adapter of claim 8, wherein the user interface comprises a video  
display.

25           10.     The adapter of claim 8, wherein the user interface comprises a plurality  
of input keys.

          11.     The adapter of claim 1, wherein the facsimile module further contains  
executable instructions for determining a priority order on selection of a  
30   communication port to utilize for facsimile operations.

          12.     An adapter for connecting a printer and scanner to a cellular radio  
system, wherein the adapter enables the printer and scanner to conduct facsimile  
operations, comprising:

35               a facsimile module, wherein the facsimile module includes executable  
instructions for encoding data received from the scanner and decoding fax data and  
processing the fax data to generate print data for printing;

                  a cell radio;

                  a peripheral controller, wherein the peripheral controller includes  
40   executable instructions to control the printer and the scanner;

                  one or more communication ports, wherein at least one of the  
communication ports is in communication with the printer and at least one of the  
communication ports is in communication with the scanner; and

45 a data encoder in communication with the facsimile module and the  
cell radio, wherein the data encoder is configured to convert data transmitted between  
the facsimile module and the cell radio.

13. An adapter for connecting a all-in-one device to a cellular radio  
system, wherein the adapter enables the all-in-one device to conduct facsimile  
operations, comprising:

5 a facsimile module, wherein the facsimile module includes executable  
instructions for encoding data received from the all-in-one device and decoding fax  
data and processing the fax data to generate print data for printing;

a cell radio;

a peripheral controller, wherein the peripheral controller includes  
executable instructions to control the all-in-one device;

10 one or more communication ports, wherein at least one of the  
communication ports is in communication with the all-in-one device; and

a data encoder in communication with the facsimile module and the  
cell radio, wherein the data encoder is configured to convert data transmitted between  
the facsimile module and the cell radio.

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14. A system for performing facsimile operations on a printer over a cellular network, wherein the printer lacks facsimile receiving functionality, the system comprising:

an adapter for connecting the printer to a cellular radio system;

5 a printer; and

a communication link between the printer and the adapter;

wherein the adapter comprises:

a facsimile module having executable instructions for decoding fax data and processing the fax data to generate print data for printing;

10 a cell radio;

one or more communication ports, wherein at least one of the communication ports is in communication with the printer; and

a data encoder in communication with the facsimile module and the cell radio, wherein the data encoder is configured to convert data transmitted  
15 between the facsimile module and the cell radio.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the communication link comprises a wireless communication link.

16. A method for receiving, through a cellular network system, a facsimile  
5 on a printer, wherein the printer lacks facsimile receiving functionality, the method  
comprising:

receiving facsimile data in a first format from a cellular network  
system;

decoding the received facsimile data into a second format;

10 generating print data corresponding to the received facsimile data in  
the second format; and

transmitting the print data to a printer to record an image  
corresponding to the print data.